

## Message Text

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S E C R E T STATE 063580

EXDIS

FOLLOWING REPEAT PARIS 7561 ACTION SECSTATE INFO RABAT  
ALGIERS TUNIS NOUAKCHOTT TRIPOLI MADRID MOSCOW USUN 13  
MAR

QUOTE

S E C R E T PARIS 07561

EXDIS

E.O. 11652: XGDS

TAGS: PFOR, MILI, AG, CU, LY, UR, FR

SUBJECT: REPORTED ARRIVAL OF CUBANS AND ARMS IN  
ALGERIA

1. IN MEETING MARCH 12 WITH AMBASSADOR ROBERT NEUMANN  
AND EMBOFF, QUAI DIRECTOR FOR NORTH AFRICA AND LEVANT,  
PIERRE CERLESBN SAID THE FRENCH HAVE HEARD FROM AN  
EXCELLENT SOURCE THAT A TRICKLE OF CUBANS IS ARRIVING  
IN ALGERIA. HE SAID THEY COME IN SMALL GROUPS OF 2,  
3, OR 4, BY REGULAR PLANE FLIGHTS, AND THAT THEIR  
PRESENCE IS KNOWN BECAUSE THEY TRANSIT "FRIENDLY  
COUNTRIES". CERLES DID NOT KNOW WHETHER THE CUBANS

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COME DIRECTLY FROM CUBA OR FROM ANGOLA OR SOME OTHER

PLACE IN AFRICA. HE HOPED TO BE ABLE TO GIVE US MORE DETAILS, INCLUDING NUMBERS AND THE CUBANS' DESTINATION IN ALGERIA, NEXT WEEK. TERMING THE INFORMATION "HIGHLY SIGNIFICANT", CERLES SPECULATED THAT THE CUBANS MIGHT BE IN ALGERIA TO MAINTAIN SOVIET MILITARY EQUIPMENT AND TO MAN MISSILE LAUNCHERS WITHIN THE COUNTRY, BUT DOUBTED THAT THEY WOULD BE USED OUTSIDE ALGERIA OR ON THE FRONT LINES IF FIGHTING BREAKS OUT.

2. CERLES ALSO SAID THAT THE FRENCH HAVE HAD RECENT CONFIRMATION OF ARMS SHIPMENTS FROM LIBYA TO SOUTHERN ALGERIA. HE SAID THE DELIVERIES, WHICH STOPPED AT THE END OF FEBRUARY, INCLUDED 60 TO 100 T-54 AND T-62 TANKS, 100 TO 150 MISCELLANEOUS VEHICLES AND 10,000 TONS OF AMMUNITION, ENOUGH MATERIAL TO EQUIP AN ARMORED BRIGADE. THE FRENCH DO NOT KNOW WHETHER THE SUPPLIES WERE FROM LIBYAN STOCKS OR MERELY TRANSITED LIBYA ON THEIR WAY FROM THE USSR.  
RUSH UNQUOTE KISSINGER

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## Message Attributes

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**Capture Date:** 01 JAN 1994  
**Channel Indicators:** n/a  
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